GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:354
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015
VILLAGE PUBLIC TELEPHONE
Tumane Shri Krupal Balaji

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages provided with Village Public Telephone (VPT), State-wise;

(b) whether VPTs have not been provided in the villages which are less populated and located in dense forests/ remote areas and difficult terrain;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has made any efforts to provide telephone in these places with the help of some other techniques; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the result achieved so far in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) Details of number of villages provided with Village Public Telephone (VPT) is at Annexure.

(b) to (e) VPTs are to be provided in all inhabited villages of the country through on-going Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) scheme. Village Public Telephones (VPTs) have been provided using wire-line, wireless and Digital Satellite Phone Terminal (DSPT) technologies. As on 31.01.2015, 5,81,288 out of the 5,93,601 inhabited villages [i.e. 97.93%] as per Census 2001 have been covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs).